

TOPEKA STATE JOURNAL

By FRANK P. MAC LENNAN.
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FULL LEASED WIRE REPORT
OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.
The State Journal is a member of the Associated Press and receives the full day's news report of that great news organization for the exclusive afternoon edition in Topeka.
The news is received in the State Journal building over wires for this sole purpose.

Mr. Carnegie says an income tax will make him of us. Does this mean that Andy expects to be about his?

An exchange refers to "Young James G. Blaine." Young James G. Blaine must be getting pretty well along in years about now.

Think what a choice assortment of messages the president will have had during the holiday recess.

The Platt resignation rumor is once more getting a good start, but the realization of this rumor would be almost to good to be true.

That Great Bend bank robber has now begun to write poetry. There is no telling to what depth a man will not descend when he once starts down hill.

Four hundred people die of consumption every day in the United States. It looks as though the Big Stick ought to get after the White Plague.

The president has taken his family and has gone down to Pine Knot, Va., for a few days. Very likely Oyster Bay will regard this as an encroachment on its rights.

If Mr. Rockefeller's income is now \$1,900 a second it is likely that he can keep up with the increase in the cost of living for a few days at least without a raise in wages.

Following the discovery by an expert that insanity caused by a microbe, a bright paragrapher suggests that this is the reason they send such persons to the bug house.

Hicks, the rescued California miner, has been offered \$500 a week to go on the stage. Like as not the Bellamy Store will get a chance to do a vaudeville stunt one of these days.

Commenting on the assertion of the Jewell Republican that the two great authors of tragedy are Shakespeare and whisky, the Washington Post thinks this proves an alibi for the women.

Mr. Rockefeller insists that he has been out of the Standard Oil business for twelve years. It is noticeable that he participates in the profits, however, to the extent of a good many millions a year.

Judging from the spelling that was in vogue 350 years ago in New England, reformed spelling has already made great strides, and it had no Andrew Carnegie to finance it in times ago, either.

W. A. DeFord, formerly of Kansas, and not so very long ago either, has been appointed deputy attorney general of New York state, at a salary of \$4,000 a year. This is better than being attorney general of Kansas.

There is this advantage in not doing one's Christmas shopping early: By leaving it till ten o'clock on Christmas eve there isn't so large an assortment to select from and it isn't so hard to make up one's mind.

Speaking of people who work overtime, there is State Treasurer Berry of Pennsylvania, who has undertaken the task of keeping the state capitol gauged to that state from carrying off everything in the treasury.

Wichita and Leavenworth would like to have the laws fixed so that they can have open saloons without danger of molestation from the law, but it is doubtful if the coming legislature will be able to accommodate them.

Railroad rates are doubtless too high, but if we can hold them where they are for awhile longer the prices of other things will probably reach the same level, judging from the way they have been climbing in recent years.

Although their railroad passes have been cut off and their salaries have not been raised, members of congress need not worry about their finances. Look at the ease with which Senator Bailey borrows a fortune now and then from the oil trust.

The Japanese continue to arrive in America at the rate of only 13,000 a year, or less than one-fifth of the number that come from Europe in the same length of time. That does not look very much as though the Japs would soon overrun this country.

It cannot be said that Uncle Sam does not pay good salaries to his postmasters. For instance the postmaster

at Topeka receives a salary of \$3,000 a year and has an assistant. The chief justice of the supreme court of Kansas receives only \$3,000 a year, and he cannot do any business on the side. Comment is unnecessary.

THE PENSION IDEA.

The announcement of the Santa Fe that it will retire its old employees on a pension, if they so desire, after fifteen years of service and after they have reached the age of 65 years or are totally disabled, is another advance step in the railroad world. The idea of pensioning old employees is not new, but to be sure, for other roads have done this; but heretofore it has usually applied only to one or two classes of employees after exceedingly long terms of service. The Santa Fe makes the pension general among its old and faithful servants.

This plan will not only reward faithful and continued service, but it will serve as an incentive to secure such service. After a man has served a life in the railroad, he is entitled to a pension in some subordinate position at a comparatively meager salary, the prospect that he will be dismissed in his later years when he is too advanced in life to make a start in other lines, is not particularly encouraging. Yet such things have happened. Some men serve for years as station agents or clerks, only to find themselves set aside for younger men when they have outgrown their usefulness.

The knowledge that the company to which they have given years of faithful service will help them in their days of usefulness are over will naturally make such men more cheerful in rendering their services. And these men are just as necessary in the conduct of the business as are those higher up. Every man cannot be a superintendent or a manager. Some must labor in the ranks. And the pension idea will make the workers in the ranks more contented, and keep in the service capable clerical and detail men who might otherwise leave it to establish themselves in a business that would maintain them late in life.

THE HOUSTON COMMISSION.

The present agitation in this state to allow Kansas cities to adopt the commission form of municipal government makes pertinent the testimony of the Houston Post as to what has been accomplished in that city during the brief time that the commission system has been in force there. The Houston commission has just been petitioned by a large number of citizens to allow themselves to be re-elected for another year, and in speaking of this petition the Post says:

"The record made by these faithful officials during the eighteen months stands without parallel in municipal administration in America. From the very beginning of their service it has been a record of triumphant achievement. An obnoxious floating debt of nearly \$400,000, which had hung over the municipality for many years, has been quickly retired; streets have been paved; school buildings have been erected; the sanitary condition of the city has been greatly improved; good order has been maintained; the public schools have been improved; the public rate has been decreased; every vestige of graft has been eliminated; expenses have been reduced, and the waterworks have been acquired and important steps taken to furnish the entire city with an abundant supply of pure water.

"What has been accomplished in Houston during the brief period of the commission form of government has made this city famous throughout the entire world. The record has been the marvel of the press and of all students of municipal economics everywhere, and it is not improbable that it will be the inspiration for municipal reform in many other important cities of the United States."

This is good testimony as to the value of the commission plan, and ought to carry with it great weight in securing a similar government for Kansas towns.

SUPPRESS THE CLUBS.

Isn't it about time that Topeka was suppressing, once for all, the so-called clubs that bring disgrace upon the fair name of the city?

If reports which are told about them are true and they are not disputed—some of these places are as bad as those which disgrace some of the big cities that make no pretensions to civic virtue along such lines.

A few weeks ago a number of ministers, after a personal investigation one Saturday night, made assertions concerning these dens of iniquity that startled the good people of Topeka. It was alleged that these so-called clubs were the leading places of gamblers, toughs and courtesans, and that boys and young men from good families frequented them and associated with these low characters. The people of Topeka who see nothing of these things could scarcely believe that they exist, and a good many were inclined to think the facts were overdrawn and exaggerated.

But they may be true. A few days ago the news columns of this paper contained a description of one of these places secured from authoritative sources, and it is alleged that not only boys, but also girls, are inveigled into these dens of vice and the downward road. It is asserted, too, that courtesans and other evil characters not only mingle with the patrons of these places in the barrooms, but that there are private rooms provided for them.

As corroborative evidence that women are allowed in these places, comes the news of a fight between two women in one of these joints on lower Kansas avenue late on Christmas eve.

Liquor and vice ever go hand in hand, apparently, but many of the big cities of the country do not permit such places as these to exist. Resorts such as the ones described are little better than the wine rooms and low dance halls of the worst American cities. Why should they be permitted to exist in the capital of Kansas?

It is true that when they become too notorious they are put out of business by the authorities, and the fact that they are operated behind locked doors

may make it a trifle difficult to suppress them until they do become flagrant, but it seems as though some method ought to be at hand for suppressing them altogether. The average citizen of Topeka sees nothing of them, for if he did they would not last long, for the average Topeka citizen will not tolerate such things in his sight.

JOURNAL ENTRIES

Get your resolutions out and dust them up.

Now that Christmas is over we discover that our pocket book is somewhat empty and hungry looking, but it was worth the price.

"I got scared for fear I was going to get into a bad fix yesterday," said Bill Donnelly. "In other words," said Deacon Twogood, "somebody turned in a fire alarm on you, hey?"

The insurance companies continue to bribe us with calendars, just as though they had not been called down for wasting the policyholders' money for bribery.

Rev. E. R. Brown of Abilene wants the job of praying for the state senate. Well, the senate will probably need it.

Speaking of domestic trouble, the news columns and the editorial page of the Capitalist have been full of divorce points of inharmonious over the senatorial contest.

JAYHAWKER JOTS

A Clay Center man nearly lost his eye as a result of being hit in that member by a chip as he was chopping kindling. Moral: Let your wife chop the kindling.

Jersey Republican: The Jersey Bulletin says that a cow that can produce only 100 pounds of butter a year has missed her calling. She ought to have been a steer.

Two Saline county boys started after the corn husking championship, but they ran out of corn at 3 o'clock in the afternoon when they had \$5 back on their credit.

Deacon Walker: I have read over the lives of quite a number of presidents and can't recall that any of them contained anything like this: He was a pool player in his town when a boy.

A team of horses started to run away in Wichita the other day and were going some when a Salvation army girl who was watching a Christmas kettle by the curb, risked her life by dashing out and catching them by the bits. She stopped the team, and the accounts of the vehicle showed their gratitude by making a "liberal donation" to the kettle.

The Spring Hill News Era has prepared a number of helpful "Don'ts." What are these? Don't ask the editor to publish a list of wedding gifts. Don't add to the terrors of death by tacking stanzas of doggerel to a eulogy of an old citizen. Don't plug into a newspaper office and tell the editor you have brought him "something to fill up with." Take him a box of soap.

Speaking of prosperity, a box social was given in a country district up in Osborne county recently to raise funds to repair the school house. Twenty-five boxes brought \$5 each, two \$3 each, and the highest priced box, one furnished by Miss Emma Inskeep, was sold for \$11.50. That is the limit so far for a high price for supper. A couple of weeks ago, at another box supper, Miss Inskeep's box brought the highest price, \$8.40, showing that Miss Emma either knows how to put up a mighty fine lunch or that two young Osborne county fellows propose to have the honor, etc., at whatever cost.

GLOBE SIGHTS.

[From the Atchison Globe.] Old people are satisfied with the greeting, "I wish you a Merry Christmas," but children want something more.

Another part of a town dog's business, especially a young one, is to try to beat you to the evening paper and scatter it all over the block.

Some men not only feel that the worst of a living but are sore because there are no collection agencies to collect it for them.

Almost any boy is glad to skate with a girl who knows how, but it is true devotion when he volunteers to teach her to skate that way.

Don't let a smooth stranger coax you into catching driftwood in the river on shares. You are entitled to ALL the driftwood you catch in the river.

To each woman who is finicky about their hats and the brand of perfume they use, seem to go it blind when it comes to the selection of a man.

How far can you afford to carry kindness? Can you afford to let it to the extent of being impolite? That sort of thing hurts your business; no doubt about that.

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

[From the Chicago News.] The whole world loves to get the laugh on a lover.

Don't hope to please others if you can't please yourself.

Marriage isn't apt to be a failure unless you marry your ideal.

Beware of the man who is envious of the happiness of others.

We are told that man is made of dust—and yet dust always settles.

Some love affairs end at the altar—but the majority never get that far.

Every time a large man shrinks from his duty a small man rises to the occasion.

Many a man talks as though he considered himself chief adviser to the Almighty.

Wise men ascertain what is on the other side of the hurdle before jumping at conclusions.

All heroes are good and all villains are bad on the stage, but it is often otherwise in real life.

KANSAS COMMENT

THE CHERY MAN.

There is one man in this city whose name it is unnecessary to mention in connection with this bit of philosophy. He is a man who is not named or afraid to say little pleasant things to the little unimportant opportunities. Many a time we have observed him coming into a store to make some small purchase, but we have never seen him to see that he enters without a cheery greeting to the tired girl who stands at the counter. We have seen him pass laborers every day who were of the little great a hurry to make a little pleasant comment on the progress of the work. It costs him nothing, but he has made the other good. Kindness with him is not a weakness. You know there are lots of people who can look just as if they had been caught sheep stealing directly after having given away a kind impulse for a moment. It is not so with him. He knows that people—

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IN THE MUSIC OF THE STREAM.

I stood beside a stream today
That onward flowed to meet the sea:
Its crystal depths a mirror lay
Reflecting unto me the things I see.
I sought my image mirrored there,
To find in it a loving grace—
A face I loved, a face I loved,
Of my dear mother's form and face:
And in the music of the stream,
I heard again the voice of her I loved,
I heard again, as in a dream,
Her dear old song, my lullaby.

I saw the silver in her hair,
The waves of heat that shone in her eyes,
The smile that made her doubly fair,
And through it all a sweet surprise.
I scarcely breathed, yet called her name;
I echoed, in the wood,
When she vanished, when she came.

And yet, the music of the stream,
Like waves of heat that shone in her eyes,
Like light from some far stars that gleam—
Reflected—flooded all my soul.

At last I dimly realized,
It was my form, it was my face,
My loving face had surprised—
I sought my image mirrored there,
And, oh, I longed once more